



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit, Cherokee County
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notice of Conviction and Sentencing **Canton Man Found Guilty of Felony Murder Receives Life Sentence** *State vs. David Henry Daniel*

CANTON, GA (August 25, 2026) – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on August 21, 2026, David Henry Daniel, 45, of Canton, was convicted of felony murder and other charges and sentenced to life in prison for the 2025 shooting death of Michael Kyle Reid, 44, of Canton.

At the conclusion of a five-day trial, a Cherokee County jury convicted Daniel of felony murder, aggravated assault, and possession of a firearm during a crime, and acquitted him of malice murder.

Charges stem from a Cherokee Sheriff's Office investigation of a shooting that occurred on February 18, 2025, outside the defendant's girlfriend's home on North Lake Drive in Canton. At 10:21 p.m. that evening, Cherokee County E-911 received a call reporting a shooting. When law enforcement arrived, they found Reid lying on the floor of the carport, with a single fatal gunshot wound to his chest.

Deputies recovered the .22-caliber pistol used in the shooting on the hood of a vehicle in the driveway. No one witnessed the shooting. Daniel's girlfriend heard a gunshot and ran outside after the shooting.

A pocketknife and a small sheath knife were found in the victim's possession, in locations indicating that Reid did not have the opportunity to access either prior to being shot.

Trial evidence showed that Daniel and Reid first came into conflict three days before the shooting, when Reid began communicating with Daniel's on-again, off-again girlfriend. Over the next several days, social media and text messages documented increasing tension between the two men.

On the day of the shooting, Daniel ran out of his girlfriend's home after Reid arrived, shooting him within seconds. He initially said the shooting was an accident and later claimed he felt threatened.

"The defendant gave investigators contradictory accounts to explain the shooting – first claiming it was accidental, then claiming that he acted in self-defense and that the victim had a bat, a wrench, or even a flashlight," said Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Mackey, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State. "The jury reviewed all the evidence and determined the truth. This shooting was unjustified, and this defendant is guilty of felony murder."

During the trial, the State called 11 witnesses and introduced nearly 150 exhibits, including the 911 call, crime-scene photos, the defendant's recorded interview with a detective, law enforcement body-worn camera footage, and

social media records and text messages documenting the defendant's mindset in the days leading up to the shooting. The jury deliberated for over nine hours before returning its verdict.

"The jury's verdict sends a clear message: this defendant did not act in self-defense, but instead used unlawful deadly force. A man lost his life, and his family has been left to live with that devastating loss," said Cherokee County District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway.

At sentencing, the victim's sister described the profound loss Reid's death has caused their family. She spoke of his infectious laugh, loyalty, fun-loving nature, and good heart. She said that the family continues to grieve and the pain will never go away. The State also presented the court with two additional victim impact statements.

Superior Court Judge Tony Baker sentenced Daniel to life in prison with the possibility of parole, plus an additional five years to be served on probation. He will be eligible for parole after serving 30 years in prison. In addition, he was ordered to have no contact with the victim's family, to forfeit all firearms, and not enter the confines of Cherokee County.

The case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Mackey and Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Geoffrey Fogus, Office of the District Attorney, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit.

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The Office of the District Attorney for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit is committed to seeking justice, acting with integrity, and collaborating with partner agencies in the criminal justice system in order to protect the citizens of Cherokee County and the State of Georgia.

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